

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-36 (canceled).

Claim 37 (new): A method of treating a human patient for an anal disorder selected from one or more of the group consisting of anal fissure, anal ulcer, hemorrhoidal disease, and levator spasm and ameliorating pain associated therewith, comprising administering an effective amount of an organic nitric oxide donor proximate to, or to, the affected area in the external anus and distal anal canal of the patient.

Claim 38 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein said anal disorder is an anal fissure or ulcer.

Claim 39 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein said anal disorder is hemorrhoidal disease.

Claim 40 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein said anal disorder is levator spasm.

Claim 41 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is capable of releasing nitric oxide under physiological conditions.

Claim 42 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is capable of releasing nitric oxide under anal disease treatment conditions.

Claim 43 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the administering is topical.

Claim 44 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the administering is via a suppository.

Claim 45 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied proximate to the affected area in the external anus and distal anal canal of the patient.

Claim 46 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied to the affected area in the external anus and distal anal canal of the patient.

Claim 47 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is formulated in a composition comprising the nitric oxide donor in an amount from 0.01% to 10% by weight and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

Claim 48 (new): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition further comprises a carrier selected from the group consisting of white petrolatum, mineral oil, lanolin, distilled water, acetone, and cocoa butter.

Claim 49 (new): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition further comprises a corticosteroid.

Claim 50 (new): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition further comprises a local anesthetic.

Claim 51 (new): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition is formulated as an ointment, a cream, a gel, or a lotion.

Claim 52 (new): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition is formulated as a liquid or semisolid.

Claim 53 (new): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition is formulated as a suppository.

Claim 54 (new): The method of claim 41, wherein the administering is topical and the nitric oxide donor is formulated as an ointment, a cream, a gel, or a lotion.

Claim 55 (new): The method of claim 41, wherein the administering is topical and the nitric oxide donor is formulated as a liquid or semisolid.

Claim 56 (new): The method of claim 41, wherein the nitric oxide donor is formulated as a suppository.

Claim 57 (new): The method of claim 41, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is formulated in a composition comprising the nitric oxide donor in an amount from 0.01% to 10% by weight and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

Claim 58 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied to skin or tissue of the anal area.

Claim 59 (new): The method of claim 47, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied to skin or tissue of the anal area.

Claim 60 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied to a hemorrhoid.

Claim 61 (new): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied to an anal fissure or anal ulcer.

Claim 62 (new): A method of treating a human patient having an anal fissure, anal ulcer, hemorrhoid, or spasm of the levator muscle and ameliorating pain associated therewith, comprising applying a composition comprising an effective amount of an organic compound which can release nitric oxide under physiological or anal disease treatment conditions and a physiologically acceptable carrier to an area proximate to, or to, the affected area in the anal canal of the patient.

Claim 63 (new): A method of claim 62, wherein the affected area has a hemorrhoid.

Claim 64 (new): A method of claim 62, wherein the affected area has an anal ulcer or anal fissure.

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Claim 65 (new): A method of claim 62, wherein the organic compound is formulated as a suppository.